

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An apparatus for controlling play of a progressively operated lottery type card based game, the apparatus comprising:
 - a plurality of playing cards which can be purchased by game players each of which having one or more game symbols displayed thereon;
 - a master game card for use in conjunction with the plurality of playing cards;
 - at least one of the master game card and the plurality of playing cards having displayed thereon means for establishing the eligibility of one or more selected game players having playing cards displaying predetermined selected ones of the game symbols,
- 10 - at least one of the master game card and the plurality of playing cards including means for identifying at least one of the selected game players, and selectively removable means for concealing the identifying means prior to establishing the selected game players;
- 15 - the master game card further including award identifying means comprising a plurality of award values displayed on the master game card, and selectively removable means for concealing the award values, so that the at least one of the selected game players identified by the identifying means can determine the award to be received by removing the concealing means associated with the award values;
- a jackpot established from one or more games;
- 20 - the master game card further including a second award identifying means for establishing the identity of at least one game player, and selectively removable means

for concealing the second award identifying means which concealing means is removed to reveal the identity of the at least one game player who is awarded an award from an accumulated jackpot when the accumulated jackpot amount equals or exceeds a
25 predetermined maximum amount and is not awarded to at least one of the selected game players identified by the identifying means.

2. The invention according to Claim 1 wherein the second award identifying means identifies one selected game player.

3. The invention according to Claim 1 wherein the second award identifying means identifies one player among all players who purchased a game card.

4. The invention according to Claim 1 wherein the selectively removable means for concealing the second award identifying means comprises a die-cut flap which obscures the identity of a game player until revealed.

5. The invention according to Claim 1 wherein the selectively removable means for concealing the second award identifying means comprises a scratch-off coating which obscures the identity of a game player until revealed.

6. The invention according to Claim 1 wherein the master game card has displayed thereon indicia which informs both the game operator and game players that the selectively removable means is to be removed only when the jackpot award amount

reaches or exceeds a predetermined maximum amount and is not awarded to a game
5 player.

7. The invention according to Claim 1 wherein the selectively removable means for
concealing the second award identifying means includes indicia comprising a stop sign
symbol toward reminding the game operator and game players that the jackpot bonus
award is to be awarded when the amount reaches or exceeds a predetermined
5 maximum amount and is not awarded to a game player.

8. The invention according to Claim 1 wherein the selectively removable means for
concealing the second award identifying means includes indicia which expressly
indicates the maximum dollar amount of the jackpot bonus which triggers removal of the
concealing means of the second award identifying means.

9. The invention according to Claim 1 wherein the selectively removable means for
concealing the second award identifying means includes indicia which informs both the
game operator and game players that the means is to be removed only when the
accumulated jackpot amount reaches or exceeds a predetermined maximum amount
5 and is not awarded to a game player.

10. The invention according to Claim 1 wherein the master game card has displayed
thereon means for listing the accumulated jackpot.

11. The invention according to Claim 1 wherein the jackpot comprises a dollar value.
12. The invention according to Claim 1 wherein the master game card has displayed thereon means for listing the identity of eligible game players.
13. The invention according to Claim 1 wherein the identity of eligible game players is represented by game symbols.
14. The invention according to Claim 1 wherein at least one game player is awarded the entire accumulated jackpot when the accumulated jackpot amount equals or exceeds a predetermined maximum amount and is not awarded to at least one of the selected game players identified by the identifying means.
15. The invention according to Claim 1 wherein at least one game player is awarded the amount from the accumulated jackpot which exceeds the predetermined maximum amount when the jackpot is not awarded to at least one of the selected game players identified by the identifying means.